MANAGING EVENT-CONDITION-ACTION RULES IN A DATABASE SYSTEM

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Use of a database-enabled rules engine includes receiving and storing ECA expressions in the database. Such expressions specify (1) an event structure that defines an event that corresponds with the event structure; (2) conditions for evaluation with respect to occurrences of events that correspond with the event structure; and (3) actions for performance in response to events satisfying one or more of the conditions. Such expressions are stored in columns of a database table. Hence, during a database session in which the rules are evaluated with respect to one or more events, an event is detected based on the event's compliance with the specified event structure and the conditions are evaluated by determining whether the event satisfies any of the conditions. If the event satisfies a set of one or more conditions that have a corresponding action, then the corresponding action is performed by the database or the database causes the action to be performed outside of the database.